

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PASS-00 AS-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02 SAB-01 IO-10 OMB-01 CIEP-01 /081 W

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R 121420Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 1642

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

DOD WASHINGTON DC

CNO WASHINGTON DC

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0936

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

KUWAIT PASS DOHA

DOD FOR ISA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, IZ, BA

SUBJECT : BAHRAIN/IRAQI RELATIONS

1. HARD ON THE HEELS OF THE RECENT IRAQI CULTURAL AND
ECONOMIC DELEGATION, FOUR IRAQI NAVAL VESSELS ARE
ARRIVING BAHRAIN NOVEMBER 12 FOR AN OFFICIAL VISIT.

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THE CULTURAL/ECONOMIC DELEGATION, WHICH SLIPPED INTO

BAHRAIN WHILE THE AMIR WAS AWAY IN RABAT AND THE CROWN PRINCE WAS PRESIDING, PRESSED SOME SORT OF AGREEMENT ON CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TOURISM COOPERATION ON THE BAHRAINIS. THEY INITIALED AND AGREED TO GO TO BAGHDAD SOMETIME AND WORK OUT THE DETAILS PRIOR TO SIGNING. THE BAHRAINIS ALSO AGREED TO SEND AN ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL MISSION TO BAGHDAD SOMETIME. THE GOB DELEGATION FOR THE TALKS HERE WAS HEADED AT THE OFFICE DIRECTOR LEVEL.

2. RUMOR HAS IT THAT THE CROWN PRINCE GOT HOOKED INTO INVITING THE IRAQI NAVY IN WITHOUT HIS UNCLE THE PRIME MINISTER BEING AWARE OF THE FACT UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE TO WITHDRAW THE INVITATION WITH ANY SEMBLANCE OF GRACE. THE LOCAL PRESS INDICATES THE THREE-DAY VISIT OF THE IRAQI FLEET WILL CONCENTRATE TO A LARGE EXTENT ON SPORTS EVENTS.

3. COMMENT: THUS IN THE LAST FORTNIGHT WE SEE A SUPERFICIAL MANIFESTATION OF IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN BAHRAIN AND IRAQ. FROM EVERYTHING SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TELL US IT MUST BE THE MOST SUPERFICIAL MANIFESTATION ON RECORD. PARTICULARLY THE AMIR AND PRIME MINISTER WOULD, ON THE BASIS OF THEIR FREQUENT VOLUNTARY COMMENTS TO US, HAVE SOME DIFFICULTY CHOOSING BETWEEN HAVING THE IRAQIS HERE OR CHOLERA HERE.
TWINAM

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Message Attributes

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